IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re U.S. Patent Application of HAYASHI et al. Application Number: 10/577,235 Filed: April 26, 2006 For: Surface-Treatment Method and Equil Attorney Docket No. SANK.0008 Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |)))) |
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| Sir: | <u>R</u> |
| The below-identified communications are sproceeding: | submitted in the above-captioned application of |
| - | (X) Information Disclosure Statement w/Form 1449 and references () Check for \$ 0.00 o charge payment of any fees associated with this C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpaymen |
| to Deposit Account Number 08-1480. A | |
| | Respectfully submitted, Stanley P. Fisher Registration Number 24,344 |
| | Juan Carlos A. Marquez Registration Number 34,072 |

REED SMITH LLP 3110 Fairview Park Dr., Suite 1400 Falls Church, Virginia 22042 (703) 641-4200 July 12, 2006

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| In re U.S. Patent Application of | PE |
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| HAYASHI et al. |) O 12 2006 8 |
| Application Number: 10/577,235 |) (101-12, 2006 B |
| Filed: April 26, 2006 |) PROPERTADERALE |
| For: SURFACE-TREATMENT METHOD AND EQUIPMENT |)) |
| Attorney Docket No. SANK.0008 |)) |

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted herewith.

CERTIFICATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of the filing date and prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action of the above-captioned U.S. patent application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

EFS-Web Receipt date: 07/12/2006

10577235 - GAU: 1792

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher

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Juan Carlos A. Marquez Registration Number 34,072

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July 12, 2006

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| Form PTO 1449 | , | ATTY. DOCI | KET NUMBER 008 | Serial Ni 10/577 | ,235 | 0 400 |
| | . Department of Commerce tent and Trademark Office | APPLICANT HAYASI | | | | JUL 1 8 2006 E |
| Information | Disclosure Statement by Applicant | FILING DAT April 26, | · - | GROUP | | TRADENIANT & TRADENIANT |
| | | U.S. P | Patent Documents | | | |
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| Examiner | DOCUMENT NUMBER | FILING DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB | Transl | LATION |
| Initial | | | | | CLASS | YES | No |
| | 9-104985* | 7/31/96 | Japan | | | Abstract | X |
| | 2002-237480 | 7/2/2001 | Japan | | | X | |
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| <u> </u> | | | /Binh Tran/ nitial if citation is considered, wheth | |

PTO1449

^{*}Corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,711,814 listed above